



EUROBACKYARDS 11

19.07 - 04.09.2022

Bydgoszcz – Poland





Welcome to our ESC family!

Dear Volunteer!

We are already waiting for you. We are happy that you will honour us with your presence. We believe that your stay among us will bring both our children and you plenty of joy.

We are also happy that thanks to you we will get to know your country, culture and traditions)

We hope that you will return to your home enriched with novel and invaluable memories and life experiences.

In this infopack you'll learn in a few words the essentials about European Solidarity Corps, Wiatrak, Poland, and what it means to volunteer abroad.

Here, you will also learn everything necessary about traveling to our country.

We hope it will be useful to you as a guide and will give you an idea of what it's like to live and volunteer with us in Wiatrak.

Of course, should you have any questions or issues we will be always available and ready to help you.



What is it about?

The theme of the project is a series of cultural and educational meetings conducted in the open air by European volunteers along with national volunteers. During activities with children and young people we want to promote the various cultures of the European Union. Our goal is also to reduce language and cultural barriers, combat stereotypes related to foreign cultures, and to promote active recreation and volunteering, especially in the international context.

The task of volunteers is to organize and conduct meetings with children and teenagers in the backyards of Bydgoszcz. You will work in groups, prepare presentations of your culture, and animate games and activities.

Watch a short clip from a previous edition of the project “Eurobackyards 9 and 10”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbMDv_XIbVk&t=20s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcB5CTYHMjk>



ACCOMMODATION





What else?

1. Registration in the Corps – you must register for the European Solidarity Corps (https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en);
2. Insurance - your sending organization will take care of that. Make sure you have a European Health Insurance Card;
3. Travel costs - you need to buy your ticket first and we'll reimburse you the costs of the travel. Please remember to keep the original tickets and your boarding passes. Travel budget (according to km) for Slovenia, Italy, Ukraine is 275 EUR, Turkey 360 EUR,
4. Food and pocket money - Each volunteer will receive 600 PLN as monthly allowance and as well as 600 to buy food and cleaning materials.
5. Local transport – covered transportation card- day/night buses trams etc;
6. Polish SIM - we will give you polish SIM cards for your mobile phone. Please make sure your phone works with the SIM cards of other mobile operators.





What do we expect?

- Volunteers who can dance and play with Polish children,
- Volunteers who would like to teach children and young people about their culture,
- Volunteers who are open to other people and new experiences,
- Volunteers who show initiative and help others when they need it. SUPPORTIVE is the quality we appreciate very much,
- Volunteers who are MOTIVATED, open-minded and creative,
- Having experience working with children or some art skills (music, dance, origami, art, etc.) is also desirable.





Travel to Poland

You can come to Poland by air. The closest airports to Bydgoszcz are in Warsaw-Okęcie, Gdańsk and Poznań. There is also an airport in Bydgoszcz, but it only serves a few international flights.

TRAVEL FROM AIRPORT IN WARSAW TO BYDGOSZCZ

From the Airport to train station

1. Airport Chopin arrivals -> Warszawa Lotnisko Chopina 01 (trains) -> Warszawa Centralna train station -> Bydgoszcz Wschód /Bydgoszcz Główna,

By bus: From Warsaw airport you should take a bus no. 175 or N32 (night bus) to Warszawa Centralna train station (Warsaw Central Station). The buses are here: <https://www.lotnisko-chopina.pl/en/public-transport.html>. Please remember to buy a ticket in the ticket machine or kiosk and validate it inside the bus. At night, you can also buy a ticket in the bus, from the driver. Then you can take the Intercity train or TLK to Bydgoszcz Wschód Station or Bydgoszcz Główna (Bydgoszcz Central Station). (Buy electronic tickets here: <https://www.intercity.pl/en/> - remember to keep the invoice!)



2. Airport Chopin arrivals -> Warszawa Lotnisko Chopina 01(trains) -> Warszawa Zachodnia -> Bydgoszcz Wschód /Bydgoszcz Główna

By train: From Warsaw airport you should take an S2 or S3 train to Warszawa Zachodnia (<http://www.ztm.waw.pl>). On Warszawa Zachodnia you should take a train Intercity or TLK to station Bydgoszcz Wschód (Bydgoszcz East Station) or Bydgoszcz Główna (Bydgoszcz Central Station). You must buy a ticket either at the station or electronically. But if you buy electronic tickets, please remember to download and store the invoice!!! (<https://www.intercity.pl/en/>). If you don't have enough time, you can buy the ticket from the ticket controller inside the train.

TRAVEL FROM THE AIRPORT IN GDAŃSK TO BYDGOSZCZ

Once at the Gdańsk airport, you can go by bus with the Gdn express company directly to Bydgoszcz. You need to buy a bus ticket for PLN68 (about 16 Euros).



TRAVEL FROM THE POZNAN AIRPORT TO BYDGOSZCZ

Once in Poznań airport you should take a bus no. 59, 48, 242 (night bus) to Poznań Główny Station (<https://www.ztm.poznan.pl/en/>). You must buy a public transport ticket in the ticket machine (kiosk) at the station. Then, in Poznań Główny Station, you should take a train to Bydgoszcz Główna Station. Here again, you must buy a public transport ticket in a kiosk at the station.

Here is a link to a good website that may help you find connections to Bydgoszcz:

<https://www.e-podroznik.pl>

Please remember to keep ALL THE ORIGINAL TICKETS AND BOARDING PASSES. If you can't provide them, we will not be able to reimburse your travel costs!!!!

YOUR MENTOR WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT THE STATION IN BYDGOSZCZ .



NOW A FEW WORDS ABOUT POLAND, BYDGOSZCZ AND OUR FUNDATION “WIATRAK”



Poland



The Republic of Poland is a beautiful country located in central Europe, bordered by Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Russian Federation (Kaliningrad Oblast – a Russian Enclave) and Baltic Sea. The total area of Poland is 312,679 square kilometres (120,726 sq mi), making it the 71st largest country in the world and the 9th largest in Europe. The current president of Poland is Andrzej Duda.



With a population of over 38.4 million people, Poland is the 34th most populous country in the world, and the sixth most populous member of the European Union.

The largest cities in Poland are Warsaw – the capital, Kraków – previously the capital of Poland, Gdańsk – a city on the Baltic Sea,

Zakopane – a town in the Tatra mountains, Toruń – the birthplace of Mikołaj Kopernik, Wadowice – the birthplace of Pope Saint John Paul II, Wrocław, Katowice, Lublin, Poznań, etc.



BYDGOSZCZ





Bydgoszcz is a city situated in northern Poland, on the cross-section of the Brda and Vistula rivers. With a city population of 352,313 (December 2017), and an urban agglomeration of more than 470,000 inhabitants, Bydgoszcz is the 8th-largest city in Poland. It has been the seat and the co-capital of the Bydgoszcz county, along with Toruń.

University of Kazimierz Wielki, University of Technology and Life Sciences, and a conservatory are headquartered in Bydgoszcz, and the oldest building in the city is the Church of St Martin and Nicolaus, commonly known as Farna Church, whose interior is decorated in the lavish way of rich catholic cathedrals, and makes up for quite an impressive sight. Other noteworthy sight-seeing spots include the basilic of St. Peter, city center with Opera Nova, a Ferris wheel and an old town with its market,



"Miasto sportu"

Bydgoszcz, also called "miasto sportu" ("city of sports"), is an important sports center, well-known for its active scene of water sports, speedway sports, cycling as well as light athletics. The 2016 world championship in athletics U20, as well as the European Athletics Team Championship 2019, both took place at the Zawisza stadium in Bydgoszcz.



There is a number of sport venues and clubs for you to join or visit - from soccer, basketball and volleyball, swimming, ice-skating and martial arts, to a multitude of modern fitness centers.



The Granaries, the Bydgoszcz's docks, are the symbol of the city, referring to its rich tradition of commercial inland navigation.





THE “WIATRAK” FOUNDATION





The “Wiatrak” Foundation is a non-profit organization whose main idea is to implement in real life the teachings of Saint John Paul II, which talk about human development on four levels: physical, mental, intellectual and spiritual.

In “Wiatrak”, we create a space where every person, regardless of age, health or life situation, can expand their knowledge, develop their talents and discover the joy of being a gift to another human being.

Activities in “Wiatrak” can be divided into five main segments: education, culture, social integration, clinic, and international cooperation.

Classes, workshops, meetings and other events take place in Dom Jubileuszowy Jana Pawła II (Jubilee House of John Paul II) at 7 Bołtucia Street, next to the Parish of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs. Take a look at the unique interiors of this building here:

<http://wiatrak.org.pl/dom-jubileuszowy-jana-pawla-ii/>



If you have any problem during the journey you can contact our coordinators:

Maciej Brząkała: maciej.brzakala@wiatrak.org.pl

Agnieszka Gwizdała: agnieszka.gwizdala@wiatrak.org.pl

Georgi Gergov: georgi.gergov@wiatrak.org.pl

Telephone to the office: 0048 52 32 34 813



Let your adventure in Bydgoszcz begin!